REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 6 have been amended. Claims 8-9 have been newly added. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 3 and 5 to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The rejection states that claim 5 contains subject matter which is not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. In particular, claim 5 lacks written description in the specification of the "object-inherent processor". As amended, claim 5 sets forth that the aforementioned processor is an object-inherent processor. See, Fig. 1, which shows an object-inherent operation processing part 108, that provides support for the amendment. The object-inherent operation processing part 108 performs operations inherent in the information processor 102, that is, creates a message to the object of the information processor 104 and passes it to the communication managing part 110. See, page 13, lines 15-19 of the specification.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Rosenberg,

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U.S. Patent No. 6, 4178, 416 B1.　Rosenberg is cited for teaching the invention as claimed, including an inventory management system and method.　Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection in view of the foregoing amendments and for the following reasons.

An object of the present invention is to provide a technique which can be effectively applied to a distributed system control method for changing a communication peer, communication contents and execution method without changing objects of the plurality of information processor in the system when a configuration of the distributed system was changed.　See, page 1, lines 5-12 of the specification.

Figs. 5, 6, 16, and 21 provide support for the limitations of the amended claims.　For claim 1, a step of storing directory information including control information for services and configuration information for parameters of said plurality of information processors in said directory information manager has been added to the claim.　Also, the claim has been amended to include that the message is created in the first information processor and that the request is issued when it is desired to know a communication peer, from the first information processor to the directory information manager to cause the directory information manager to search for control and configuration information for the second information processor among the directory information as management information for control of operation of the respective information processors in the distributed system.　Further, claim 1 sets forth that the control and configuration information is sent to the first information processor, and controlling, in the first information processor, at least one of the first and second information processors and a sending operation of the created message to the second information processor on the basis of

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the control and configuration information received from the directory information manager in

the first information processor. The directory information is fully supported by step 500 in Fig.

5 and the directory information includes processor configuration information (1100 in Fig. 11)

and service control information (2600 in Fig. 26).

Claim 5 has been amended to set forth an object-inherent operation processor for

creating when it is desired to send data to an information processor, a message addressed to the

information processors in a distributed system. Further, the claim has been amended to clarify

that the communication management processor requests, when it is desired to know a

communication peer, the directory information manager to search for directory information as

management information for control of operations of the information processors in the

distributed system and controlling at least one of an information processor among the plurality

of information processors having the object-inherent processor and a sending operation of the

message created by the object-inherent processor on the basis of the directory information

received from the directory information manager.

Claims 8-9 have been added as new claims and are directed to an embodiment of the

invention described on page 28, lines 6-16 with relation to a key and a subscriber list 1202

shown in Fig. 12, which includes a repeating operation explained on page 34, lines 6-10 of the

specification.

Rosenberg ('416) is cited for disclosing the generating of a message in a distributed

system, and the searching of directory information to send a message. The reference is directed

to a method and system for controlling the dispensing of items from enclosures. The method

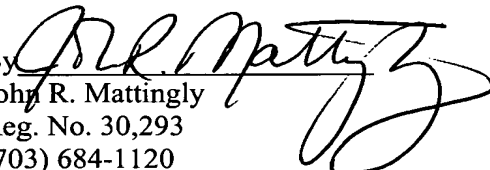and system provide enhanced information about the inventory and users who access the system.

In particular, a communications server 130 provides users with a variety of services, including tracking cabinet 110 activity, analyzing cabinet 110 inventory levels, updating the databases 155, transmitting reports to one or more nodes, modifying or updating operating and/or application software within the controllers 125 (adding new users, new products, or modifying access rights, for example), and automatically transmitting purchase orders through fax, electronic mail, or electronic data exchange links 170, or through the distributed network 145, for example. However, the features of the present invention are not taught or suggested by the reference. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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